

Matthew Franklin Jaksa (CA State Bar No. 248072)
HOLME ROBERTS & OWEN LLP
560 Mission Street, 25th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105-2994
Telephone: (415) 268-2000
Facsimile: (415) 268-1999
Email: matt.jaksa@hro.com

Attorneys for Plaintiffs,
SONY BMG MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT;
WARNER BROS. RECORDS INC.;
INTERSCOPE RECORDS; VIRGIN
RECORDS AMERICA, INC.; LAFACE
RECORDS LLC; ARISTA RECORDS
LLC; and UMG RECORDINGS, INC.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SONY BMG MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT, a
Delaware general partnership; WARNER BROS.
RECORDS INC., a Delaware corporation;
INTERSCOPE RECORDS, a California general
partnership; VIRGIN RECORDS AMERICA,
INC., a California corporation; LAFACE
RECORDS LLC, a Delaware limited liability
company; ARISTA RECORDS LLC, a
Delaware limited liability company; and UMG
RECORDINGS, INC., a Delaware corporation,
Plaintiffs,

v.

CHAD DECKER,
Defendant.

**ORIGINAL
FILED**

AUG 21 2007

RICHARD W. WIEKING
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

E-filing

WDB

CASE NO. 07 4292

**COMPLAINT FOR COPYRIGHT
INFRINGEMENT**

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. This is a civil action seeking damages and injunctive relief for copyright infringement under the copyright laws of the United States (17 U.S.C. §101 *et seq.*).

2. This Court has jurisdiction under 17 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.*; 28 U.S.C. §1331 (federal question); and 28 U.S.C. §1338(a) (copyright).

3. This Court has personal jurisdiction over the Defendant, Chad Decker, and venue in this District is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and (c) and 28 U.S.C. § 1400, because, on information and belief, the Defendant resides in this District and/or a substantial part of the acts of infringement complained of herein occurred in this District.

PARTIES

4. Plaintiff SONY BMG MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT is a Delaware general partnership, with its principal place of business in the State of New York.

5. Plaintiff Warner Bros. Records Inc. is a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, with its principal place of business in the State of California.

6. Plaintiff Interscope Records is a California general partnership, with its principal place of business in the State of California.

7. Plaintiff Virgin Records America, Inc. is a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of California, with its principal place of business in the State of New York.

8. Plaintiff LaFace Records LLC is a limited liability company duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, with its principal place of business in the State of New York.

9. Plaintiff Arista Records LLC is a limited liability company duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, with its principal place of business in the State of New York.

10. Plaintiff UMG Recordings, Inc. is a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, with its principal place of business in the State of California.

11. Plaintiffs are informed and believe that Defendant is an individual who resided in Pinole, California, within this District at the time of the infringement complained of herein. Upon information and belief, Defendant may still be found in this District.

COUNT I

INFRINGEMENT OF COPYRIGHTS

12. Plaintiffs incorporate herein by this reference each and every allegation contained in each paragraph above.

13. Plaintiffs are, and at all relevant times have been, the copyright owners or licensees of exclusive rights under United States copyright law with respect to certain copyrighted sound recordings, including but not limited to, all of the copyrighted sound recordings on Exhibit A to this Complaint (collectively, these copyrighted sound recordings shall be identified as the “Copyrighted Recordings”). Each of the Copyrighted Recordings is the subject of a valid Certificate of Copyright Registration issued by the Register of Copyrights, for which the Plaintiffs are the owners as specified on Exhibit A.

14. Among the exclusive rights granted to each Plaintiff under the Copyright Act are the exclusive rights to reproduce the Copyrighted Recordings and to distribute the Copyrighted Recordings to the public.

15. Much of the unlawful distribution of copyrighted sound recordings over the Internet occurs via “peer-to-peer” (“P2P”) file copying networks or so-called online media distribution systems. P2P networks, at least in their most popular form, refer to computer systems or processes that enable Internet users to search for files (including audio recordings) stored on other users’ computers and transfer exact copies of files from one computer to another via the Internet, which can include both downloading an exact copy of that file onto the user’s own computer and distributing an exact copy of that file to other Internet users on the same P2P network. P2P networks enable users who otherwise would have no connection with, or knowledge of, each other to provide a sophisticated search mechanism by which users can locate these files for downloading and to reproduce and distribute files off of their personal computers.

1 16. Users of P2P networks who distribute files over a network can be identified by using
2 Internet Protocol ("IP") addresses because the unique IP address of the computer offering the files
3 for distribution can be captured by another user during a search or a file transfer. Users of P2P
4 networks can be identified by their IP addresses because each computer or network device (such as a
5 router) that connects to a P2P network must have a unique IP address within the Internet to deliver
6 files from one computer or network device to another. Two computers cannot effectively function if
7 they are connected to the Internet with the same IP address at the same time.

8 17. Plaintiffs identified an individual using LimeWire on the P2P network Gnutella at IP
9 address 67.180.189.184 on March 2, 2007 at 06:47:45 EST distributing 210 audio files over the
10 Internet. The Defendant was identified as the individual responsible for that IP address at that date
11 and time. Plaintiffs are informed and believe that as of March 2, 2007, Defendant, without the
12 permission or consent of Plaintiffs, had continuously used, and continued to use, a P2P network to
13 download and/or distribute to the public the Copyrighted Recordings. Exhibit A identifies the date
14 and time of capture and a list of Copyrighted Recordings that Defendant has, without the permission
15 or consent of Plaintiffs, downloaded and/or distributed to the public. Through Defendant's
16 continuous and ongoing acts of downloading and/or distributing to the public the Copyrighted
17 Recordings, which acts Plaintiffs believe to have been ongoing for some time, Defendant has
18 violated Plaintiffs' exclusive rights of reproduction and distribution. Defendant's actions constitute
19 infringement of Plaintiffs' copyrights and exclusive rights under copyright.

20 18. In addition to the sound recordings listed on Exhibit A, Plaintiffs are informed and
21 believe that Defendant has, without the permission or consent of Plaintiffs, continuously downloaded
22 and/or distributed to the public additional sound recordings owned by or exclusively licensed to
23 Plaintiffs or Plaintiffs' affiliate record labels, and Plaintiffs believe that such acts of infringement are
24 ongoing.

25 19. Plaintiffs have placed proper notices of copyright pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 401 on
26 each respective album cover of each of the sound recordings identified in Exhibit A. These notices
27 of copyright appeared on published copies of each of the sound recordings identified in Exhibit A.
28

1 These published copies were widely available, and each of the published copies of the sound
2 recordings identified in Exhibit A was accessible by Defendant.

3 20. Plaintiffs are informed and believe that the foregoing acts of infringement have been
4 willful and intentional, in disregard of and indifference to the rights of Plaintiffs.

5 21. As a result of Defendant's infringement of Plaintiffs' copyrights and exclusive rights
6 under copyright, Plaintiffs are entitled to statutory damages pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 504(c) for
7 Defendant's infringement of each of the Copyrighted Recordings. Plaintiffs further are entitled to
8 their attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 505.

9 22. The conduct of Defendant is causing and, unless enjoined and restrained by this
10 Court, will continue to cause Plaintiffs great and irreparable injury that cannot fully be compensated
11 or measured in money. Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law. Pursuant to 17 U.S.C. §§ 502
12 and 503, Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief prohibiting Defendant from further infringing
13 Plaintiffs' copyrights, and ordering Defendant to destroy all copies of sound recordings made in
14 violation of Plaintiffs' exclusive rights.

15 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for judgment against Defendant as follows:

16 1. For an injunction providing:

17 "Defendant shall be and hereby is enjoined from directly or indirectly
18 infringing Plaintiffs' rights under federal or state law in the
19 Copyrighted Recordings and any sound recording, whether now in
20 existence or later created, that is owned or controlled by Plaintiffs (or
21 any parent, subsidiary, or affiliate record label of Plaintiffs)
22 ("Plaintiffs' Recordings"), including without limitation by using the
23 Internet or any online media distribution system to reproduce (i.e.,
24 download) any of Plaintiffs' Recordings, to distribute (i.e., upload) any
25 of Plaintiffs' Recordings, or to make any of Plaintiffs' Recordings
26 available for distribution to the public, except pursuant to a lawful
27 license or with the express authority of Plaintiffs. Defendant also shall
28 destroy all copies of Plaintiffs' Recordings that Defendant has
downloaded onto any computer hard drive or server without Plaintiffs'
authorization and shall destroy all copies of those downloaded
recordings transferred onto any physical medium or device in
Defendant's possession, custody, or control."

2. For statutory damages for each infringement of each Copyrighted Recording
pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 504.

3. For Plaintiffs' costs in this action.

4. For Plaintiffs' reasonable attorneys' fees incurred herein.
5. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: August 21, 2007

HOLME ROBERTS & OWEN LLP

By: 

MATTHEW FRANKLIN JAKSA
Attorney for Plaintiffs
SONY BMG MUSIC
ENTERTAINMENT; WARNER BROS.
RECORDS INC.; INTERSCOPE
RECORDS; VIRGIN RECORDS
AMERICA, INC.; LAFACE RECORDS
LLC; ARISTA RECORDS LLC; and
UMG RECORDINGS, INC.

Exhibit A

EXHIBIT A**CHAD DECKER****IP Address:** 67.180.189.184 2007-03-02 06:47:45 EST**CASE ID#** 120260458**P2P Network:** Gnutella**Total Audio Files:** 210

<u>Copyright Owner</u>	<u>Artist</u>	<u>Recording Title</u>	<u>Album Title</u>	<u>SR#</u>
SONY BMG MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT	Pearl Jam	Alive	Ten	137-787
Warner Bros. Records Inc.	Green Day	When I Come Around	Dookie	185-457
Interscope Records	No Doubt	Don't Speak	Tragic Kingdom	206-724
SONY BMG MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT	Mariah Carey	Without You	Music Box	178-631
Virgin Records America, Inc.	Smashing Pumpkins	Disarm	Siamese Dream	169-635
LaFace Records LLC	Toni Braxton	Un-Break My Heart	Secrets	233-892
Arista Records LLC	Whitney Houston	Didn't We Almost Have It All	Whitney	89-966
UMG Recordings, Inc.	Nirvana	All Apologies	In Utero	172-276
LaFace Records LLC	Toni Braxton	Breathe Again	Toni Braxton	208-619
SONY BMG MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT	Jessica Simpson	Where You Are	Sweet Kisses	276-117